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Joseph Lelyveld, Managing Editor
The New York Times
229 W. 43rd Street
New York, NY 10036

Dear Mr. Lelyveld:

Sometime ago, when the Times was rhapsodizing about Gerald Posner's Case Closed, our mutual friend, Rabbi Sam Silver, wrote you suggesting that you speak to me about the JFK assassination, or consult my work on it.

Sam is a dear friend of my youth. I had told him about that book that without question it was the most dishonest of the books exploiting and commercializing the JFK assassination.

I cannot say that the successful formula suckered the Times but I do believe that the Times suckered itself because it liked that formula very much and did no checking at all.

Since then selections from five of my books have been published in a single volume. Unlike the others, my books do not theorize any conspiracy or pretend any solutions. (Posner's is a work of theory, of a non-conspiracy theory.) My work comes virtually entirely from the official evidence it cites. In the last of the five books from which selections were made, Post Mortem, I began to draw upon the approximately a third of a million pages of formerly withheld records, mostly the FBI's, that I got by means of a dozen FOIA lawsuits. Several of those suits were precedental and one was cited in the legislative history of the 1974 legislation as requiring the amending of the investigatory files exemption to open CIA, FBI and similar files to FOIA access.

In the belief that you or someone else at the Times may be interested in the officially established fact of the assassination after all these years and in learning, albeit so late, that all writing critical of the JFK assassination's official solution is not of conspiracy theories, I send you this copy of those selections.

Sincerely

Harold Weisberg